

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA —JANUARY, 1961

UAO Parked On Colorado Mountain Top

Small Boys See Warm, Landed UAO

Although it is not the policy of APRO to accept and publish accounts of UAOs which were observed by children, the following sighting is felt to be important because of the resemblance of the UAO characteristics to those of many in our files.

At 4:30 p. m. on the 3rd of November, 1960, two small boys (8 years old) went out into the country to try out the bow and arrows the Sheriff's son had received for his birthday. Although there was little snow for the season in Price County, Wisconsin, the day was cold. The Gehring boy and his companion, Douglas Fox, had just passed over a small hill which had at one time been used as a gravel source by Douglas' father, when they heard a high-pitched humming sound similar to that of an electric motor. They passed down the small hill, and turned around looking for the source of the sound. The air had become very warm. They were surprised to see an aluminum-colored object perched atop the hill from which they had just descended. The two boys ran toward it, but as they approached, the object rose into the air and disappeared. They felt the ground with their mittened hands, and found that the ground was quite warm.

On the basis of the above information, forwarded by APRO member Earl Grummett, the Director decided to query Sheriff Gehring of Price County, who happened to be the father of one of the boys, via long distance phone. The diagram of the object submitted by Mr. Grummett, from a drawing by the boys, indicates the object was the "standard" disc with a cupola or dome at the top, which had several square windows around its circumference.

Sheriff Gehring proved to be very cooperative and although puzzled about the identity of the object the boys saw, he is sure they were telling the truth and giving an accurate representation

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New Mexico Sightings Continue

Despite the claim that the "flying saucer fad" would die out, as proclaimed by Lt. Col. Tacker in his book "Flying Saucers and the United States Air Force," and on subsequent TV and radio programs and magazine articles, the unconventional aerial objects continue to be seen. The following is one of the most detailed to be seen in New Mexico in the month of January 1961:

A former weather officer at Holloman AFB, New Mexico, and companions, witnessed a flight of unidentified objects at 6:17 p. m. (just after dark) on the 17th of January near Cimarron, New Mexico. The verbatim narrative reads: "The color was amber or ranging from yellow to orange. Three different groups were sighted or, as thought, the second and third groups were actually the same group sighted twice. There were six lights in the first group and eight in the second and third. In comparison with airplanes, their estimated distance was 15 miles from the observers, and the altitude about 30,000 feet. Each of the groups was noted as flying in a V formation as flying wild geese or a "wedge formation." The speed was normal or perhaps slow for airplanes. Lights in the second and third groups changed position in the formation now and then—first one light would be in the lead and then another.

"The really amazing thing was the appearance of the second group. The observers were watching a bright star in the south which they thought was the planet Mars. Suddenly a bright light appeared just beneath this star and, from it, the formation of smaller lights appeared. Then the bright light went out. The formation flew away to the southwest and disappeared. The men started to drive on when, suddenly, they observed the formation returning. The group of objects flew back to approximately the same spot where they had appeared from the bright light and then disappeared. Some of the

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On the 24th of December, 1960, residents in an outlying area near Durango, Colorado, spotted a most unconventional object resting on or near the crest of a hill. Attempts by witnesses to explain the phenomena fall short of the goal. Attempts by APRO to gather further information have failed. The account, as presented by the Durango Herald in the December 28 edition, is most interesting however:

At midnight on 24 December, a light appeared on the brow of a mountaintop north of the Wade Folsom ranch. Folsom commented that it was as if the Star of Bethlehem had returned. There was something strange about this "star" though, for it was round and beneath the many tiny lights there appeared to be tiny "windows" which blinked. The tall pine trees on the mountain top stood out in stark relief behind the object and there was a glow about it. First the glow was white, then green, and then the object disappeared as mysteriously as it had come. "First the sky was bright with hundreds of tiny blinking lights that seemed to turn around and around and dim to almost nothing first on one side and then on another like some giant breathing thing. Then in another moment the object was gone leaving only the cold night with a bright moon and twinkling stars," said Ruth Stephenson, one of the observers.

Further description by members of the Folsom family indicated that the top of the object "looked like a giant plastic dome about the size of the family living room" (20x25 feet square). There was debate as to whether the object touched the ground or hovered above it. At least a dozen people in Folsom's home saw the object.

According to Mrs. Stephenson, Mr. Folsom sighted the spot as nearly as he could and on Christmas morning he took his dog and two grandsons and climbed to the top of the mountain. "We saw some broken limbs but not much else," Folsom reported. He said there was no evidence to indicate that anything had landed there, yet the broken tree limbs puzzled him.

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The Argosy APRO Mention

The March 1961 issue of Argosy magazine carried a two-part article concerning UFO, in which APRO was mentioned. Ordinarily this would be a source of some satisfaction to the APRO staff and members alike, but inasmuch as the organization's name was coupled with a rather childish attack on civilian UFO research by Lt. Col. Tacker, of the Pentagon USAF Public Information Desk, it generated some resentment.

It has been suggested that APRO "demand" a retraction, etc. May we make it very clear that this organization will not submit to such treatment; but on the other hand we do not intend to put ourselves on the same level as Tacker by making rash and ridiculous public statements, etc.

Probably the most outstanding thing about the Argosy article is that Tacker's diatribe attempted to attack the honesty, integrity and ability of private UFO research. A companion article was written by Long John Nebel of WOR Radio (New York) fame, and concerned itself with the opinions of Mr. Jackie Gleason pertaining to the UFO. While it appeared to be an endorsement of

the interplanetary theory, the Nebel story was actually a semi-humorous tongue-in-cheek dissertation on Mr. Gleason's interpretations of UFO evidence.

It should be noted that unlike NICAP, the UFO Research Committee of Ohio, and Civilian UFO Research of Chicago, APRO has never made public statements accusing the USAF of censorship or lying to the public. This is Tacker's first error. The Chicago group, headed by Dave Daughters, has informed us that they have no dues-paying members. Error number two. Considering the large number of errors in Tacker's recent book it is not surprising that this new act of faith should disregard facts in order to support a favorite dogma—that UFOs do not exist.

Why was APRO mentioned? Tacker did not mention APRO in his book "Flying Saucers and the United States Air Force." Why did he find it necessary to lump this organization in with several others for the purposes of discrediting? A review of the happenings of 1960 gives us a very clear answer.

In March of 1960, APRO made public the fact that physical evidence of the reality of the UFO had been found and offered to participate in a joint examination of the evidence between Air Force and APRO scientists. The offer was ignored, and APRO retains the evidence. Despite the fact that via the press details concerning the evidence was available to the AF, we heard no more. Tacker did, however, try to persuade the Director to turn the evidence over to AF technicians at Wright-Patterson. In the May 1960 issue of the Bulletin, APRO published, for the first time, the full account of the IGY (Brazil) pictures taken in 1958 at Trindade, along with the full account of events preceding and following the photographing of the Saturn-shaped UFO.

Inquiries to Tacker's office pertaining to the AF analysis of the IGY case, elicited the information that the Air Force had actually evaluated this evidence as a "hoax." A study of the whole series of correspondence indicated that the AF had concluded their investigation rather prematurely, basing their evaluation on information which was not complete. The Director pointed out the fact that the AF conclusion had been premature but was answered by a curt reply saying that the AF had said all it intended to say concerning that case.

It now appears that Lt. Col. Tacker included APRO in his hysterical tirade against civilian researchers because we have something outstanding—good evidence. It was fear which prompted the

unqualified linking of this organization with other groups charging Air Force conspiracy.

If fear that we may prove him wrong could drive Colonel Tacker to the erroneous inferences of his article in Argosy, it is not within the duty of the staff of this organization to enter into a public spectacle of accusation and/or reassurance.

UAO Parked

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About 3 p. m. on Christmas Day, the family's pet dog who had not been around for some time, came running to the house, hurled herself at the door and when admitted to the living room, dashed around as though scared badly, and shortly dropped dead. Mrs. Stephenson said that the family was much disturbed about this incident, because a neighbor's dog had also been missing and the dog had been seen coming down from the mountain where the strange object had been seen the night before.

Another trek up the mountainside was organized after the dog died. Mrs. Stephenson and three other women went back up the mountainside in search of anything which might explain the strange happenings.

The small party determined that the spot in question was about a half mile from the road, then set out. When they arrived at their destination, they examined the area visited by Mr. Folsom in the morning, noting the broken limbs. They were about to turn back toward the ranch when a second family dog, named Coke, began to bark furiously and seemed to want the party to follow. They all climbed higher up the mountain side, following the dog until he stopped at a spruce tree, and proceeded to look up into its branches as if barking at something. Mrs. Stephenson said they could see nothing. Then she noticed some "strange tracks" leading to the tree and away from it and toward the clump of cedar trees beyond the clearing.

Mrs. Stephenson then described "strange giant tracks" which she hesitated to follow because of their size. The dog continued to run around and bark excitedly.

The large tracks were human-shaped but it was a set of other tracks which really puzzled the small party. Clearly imprinted in the snow was the imprint of something which resembled a hoof, although there were three "hoof" marks together, in a cloverleaf design. There were many of these tracks leading from the cedar clump and Mrs. Stephenson

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UAO Parked

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noted other broken limbs and bark scraped from the trees about six feet from the ground. The broken limbs she noticed had come from tops of trees. More and different tracks resembled a deer's tracks, only with four prongs instead of the normal two. These prongs were arranged in a square about six inches across but the track itself looked somewhat round in shape.

"We saw other tracks that looked like some giant frog had leaped from place to place," Mrs. Stephenson continued. "The pattern of the tracks was in the three attached pointed circles, the tracks possibly some three feet apart. Next we discovered a strange track that we called the Kangaroo. There was the three round foot prints with small holes in a round circle and the print of a tail in between. These tracks were about five feet apart always in a straight line from the clump of trees." There were many of the "giant" tracks, all leading in different directions but always in a straight line from the cedar clump.

Another set of tracks looked like a foot print of a very small person. The toe was quite pointed but the foot part was almost round and there was a small high heel. The print, said Mrs. Stephenson, could not have been over 5 inches long.

Another set of small foot prints were not so pointed and the heel did not appear to be as high as the other.

The party of women followed the tracks to a deserted mountain cabin where the footprints indicated that a circuitous trip around the cabin was made.

After describing these tracks, Mrs. Stephenson said she was familiar with wild animal tracks, but was not able to identify the ones found at the mountain top.

In the same issue of the Durango Herald, an article by Hal Piper debunks the whole sighting. Undersheriff Myron Darmour and Deputy Bill Hiser visited the site Tuesday, a day after Mrs. Stephenson had examined the area. Folsom said he placed little credence in the tracks because one set was 15 inches long, but "definitely human," others looked as though someone had turned his fist over and put it in the snow—three times close together. He said he didn't see anything to connect the three-cornered tracks with the object because they weren't near where he had seen it. Folsom also said the spot where he and his family had sighted the object Christmas Eve had been visited by "at least 150 cars," and peo-

ple had called him all day on Tuesday to question him about the incident.

Folsom's description of the object is strangely at odds with his attempted explanation of its identity or nature, and his attempt to disregard the tracks seen near the site. "It was definitely there," he said, "a small merry-go-round except that it wasn't revolving." It appeared to be hovering about 2 or 3 feet above the ground in a clearing surrounded by small timber about 400 feet north of Florida road. "But it didn't appear to land and when I looked the next day there were no signs that it might have landed."

Folsom said the object appeared to be about 20 feet in diameter, "At the top you could very definitely see a circle or dome and every foot or so apart were lights. They were evenly spaced and burning like a 100 or 200-watt light bulb." Below the dome there were numerous "rectangular curtains" — "I wouldn't call them windows, because they didn't look like ordinary windows. There were about 5 or 6 up and down and they seemed to revolve — to flop over, one row after another." The object remained stationary, he said, for about 15 minutes. Then its lights brightened, turned light green and finally faded out "slowly, like a gas flame."

Folsom, after giving the above detailed description of what he had seen, explained what he thought it was: "an electrical phenomenon—maybe sun particles striking air, oxygen and nitrogen perhaps." He suggested that it might be operated by "some sort of magnetic wave in the air," which eventually faded out. "It looked to me like magnetic or static electricity — like an aurora borealis," he went on, "It was the most beautiful thing I have ever seen." He assailed Mrs. Stephenson's interpretation of the death of the dogs (Mrs. Stephenson noted only that one dog had died, but according to Folsom the neighbor's missing dog must have died also) saying he felt someone had poisoned them because they were bothered by them.

Attempts to gather further information have been fruitless. Mrs. Stephenson did not return a detailed questionnaire, and if it were not for the fact that her and Mr. Folsom's descriptions closely tally, we would hesitate to print this account. However, it appears that a real and rather unusual object was seen and Folsom's "explanation" is an attempt to rationalize something which is adverse to his personal inclinations. If further corroboration or information is available it will be presented in future issues.

Fireball Epidemic In Southwest

Bright vari-colored fireballs were seen shooting through the skies of Nevada, California, Oregon and Arizona on the nights of 15, 16 and 17 January 1961. Because of the various descriptions, colors, etc., there is good reason to believe these may have been meteoric in origin but a study is being made of available data.

Bright Objects At Norwell, Massachusetts

An engineer friend of APRO member Priscilla Draffone relates a report of a sighting which he says "may not make exciting reading but to a down-to-earth engineer they were both puzzling and unexplainable":

Subject left Norwell, Mass. by car at 3:15 p. m. on 11 December and reached Wellsley Hills via Route 128 about 4:35 EST. It was a cold, cloudy day and there were snow clouds in the west.

Suddenly, two bright lights in the west which were evenly spaced and resembled two automobile headlights, attracted the observer's attention. First impression was that objects were about a mile distant and about three-fourths mile altitude.

During the minute and a half that the objects were observed, the observer attempted to detect presence of any structure around lights, but could not. They appeared to be traveling faster than a commercial plane or jet, on a north to south trajectory.

During the first 40 seconds of observation, the lights remained the same color as bright automobile lights, and in the last half minute or so, they gradually increased in brilliance until they resembled a "magnesium flare." They maintained constant speed, altitude, direction, spacing and traveled in a straight line throughout the entire sighting. The brilliant flare disappeared like "Fourth of July fireworks," the color changing from yellow-white to orange and lastly orange-red. The observer watched carefully as they reached the cloud bank and could compare the speed with the clouds behind them. After the objects entered the cloud-bank, the observer could see them, but they seemed to merge into one.

The observer noted that it was not dark enough for electric lights or headlights to be on, so ruled out ordinary reflections. Also, he said, it was light enough to have enabled one to discern any conventional aircraft.

Small Boys

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of what they saw. When they came running back to the Fox farm to relate their experience, Mrs. Fox put the boys in separate rooms and proceeded to question them one at a time to determine the accuracy and truth of their story. Comparison indicated the boys had seen what they claimed. Sheriff Gehring told the Director that although he had been skeptical about "flying saucers" in the past, he was sure his boy was telling the truth, and that he is by nature an honest child. Gehring took a Geiger counter out to the scene of the "landing" but there was no indication of radiation present. There was no physical evidence that anything had touched down in the area.

Grummett had noted the interesting information that the boys said there was a tree behind the object and between it and the sun and that they very clearly saw the object rise above the tree and take off at high speed. When Grummett investigated, he observed the site, and noted that according to the testimony of the two boys, the object was approximately 20 to 25 feet in diameter. As far as the Gehrings or Foxes know, neither boy is familiar with the subject of UFOs, "flying saucers," etc.

New Mexico

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lights would pulsate as they flew along—they grew momentarily brighter and then dim again." The weather officer is a graduate meteorologist.

Preceding the officer's sighting by 16 days is observation of a green fireball by APRO member Mary Salazar. Mrs. Salazar was driving north of highway 41, leaving the town of Estancia. A very large round green ball, traveling from West to East passed in front of her car. She said it was what could be called "close and low" and going very fast. When it was directly in front of her car and slightly overhead it vanished.

Mrs. Salazar has sighted a number of large, luminous balls from time to time which hovered fairly low but so far has never seen one touch the ground. Others in the area report large, red balls that seem to "bounce" on the mesas in the vicinity of Galisteo. They appear to be very large and perform in areas not accessible to observers.

The Texas-New Mexico, southern Colorado and Eastern Arizona area comprise an area very similar in geographical terrain, industrial development and population to the Northeastern area of

Brazil which was discussed by Dr. Fontes in his article on the Orthotonic pattern of the May 13 sightings there. Communications lines and highways are few. The recent New Mexico snow storm demonstrated how easily a part of that state, for instance, could be isolated from surrounding areas by a natural phenomena such as a snow-storm. We are watching this area very closely and request members to submit to headquarters any and all information pertaining to sightings in those parts as soon as it becomes available. The November 1957 sightings in that area resemble the reconnaissance of Northeastern Brazil in more ways than one.

"Conspiracy"

It has come to our attention that APRO has from time to time been described as one of the UFO "clubs" which insists that there is an official Air Force conspiracy to withhold official conclusions concerning the extraterrestrial nature of UFOs from the public.

We believe that this false impression arises from the fact that case material originated and/or developed by APRO has occasionally been exploited publicly by individuals or groups who push the Air Force conspiracy line.

What we do maintain is this: That many Air Force conclusions concerning individual UFO cases are not justified on the basis of available evidence.

While realizing that an impressive circumstantial case for official conspiracy can be built from such incidents, we feel that they are more likely the result of psychological weighting factors applied inadvertently by USAF analysts which cause certain items of observational evidence to be discounted on the basis of theory.

This, of course, is an extremely unscientific approach for theory should always be built on an interpretation of observational evidence—not the reverse. A science which makes all judgments on the basis of accepted but unproven theory is nonsense.

Air Force officialdom is dedicated to the proposition that all "unknowns" could be explained as conventional phenomena if enough information were available. It does not require a great deal of erudition to perceive that this attitude (which is the guiding philosophy of the USAF program) begs the question.

Viewing the matter objectively, it seems to us that the UFO researcher who maintains that each case (where official conclusions are not justified by available evidence) is proof of official conspiracy, also begs the question. For

the conspiracy theory is to him an accepted "fact" against which he appraises all new evidence.

As far as we have been able to ascertain, since 1953 no evidence has been unearthed indicating any sort of planned or deliberate censorship on the part of the USAF.

Prior to 1953 a considerable divergence of opinion existed within the USAF concerning the nature of the UFO. As a result, conflicting conclusions and statements made their appearance all too frequently for comfort. The press exploited such incidents to the fullest and the UFO became a source of constant embarrassment to the USAF. The culmination of this phase was the Washington, D. C. blips incident. It led to the convening of the 1953 scientific panel. This panel's recommendations became the hinge upon which all subsequent USAF UFO policy swung. A reorganization went into effect which put non-believers like Spencer Wheden in charge of the study program and ad-men like Lawrence Tacker in charge of the propaganda and it is a fair assumption that non-conformists soon found themselves transferred to another activity. To make it easier for the boys at Wright-Patterson, regulations like AFR 200-2 were written which made it unlikely that any non-conventional evidence would survive even the first report stage. Considered in the light of the above, the seeming contradictions which appear in the USAF O. P. I. statements becomes quite understandable. The popular appeal of the idea that the USAF is withholding the truth is probably related more to a subconscious hope that someone, somewhere, knows the answer.

We have received several queries as to why APRO publishes "little men" accounts. In answer, let us first state that the inclusion of any story in the Bulletin does not constitute an endorsement of its authenticity. Obviously APRO cannot investigate all reports, and often unauthenticated reports are included in the Bulletin because of factors which indicate authenticity.

Let us note that the known cultists invariably speak of large, handsome men. Note also that little men continue to be reported on a world-wide basis despite the fact that they have not been connected with any known cult activity. It seems to us that an exclusion of little men stories per se would again be the discounting of observational data on the basis of theory. We do not as yet have many complete answers and we do not expect to find them by donning blinders.

UAO Sighted By Many Over Calgary, Canada

The Royal Astronomical Society of the Cluny-Milo area Alberta, Canada, concluded that objects seen by witnesses in Calgary and Montana on the 22nd of January must have been metallic.

A search of three square miles of country in the Cluny area by the society team turned up nothing in the way of physical evidence. Eye witnesses said the object passed close overhead, appeared to strike the area near Cluny. Three witnesses, Mrs. Fred Bertschy, Tom Pambrun and Bruce Morrin, agreed to the time and place of the descent. Driving south from Calgary, Morrin was momentarily blinded by the brilliant object which was so close he thought his car would be hit. The color of the object was "hot blue and turquoise."

From the back of her home, half-way between Cluny and Milo, Mrs. Bertschy said the object flew close overhead, was a bright blue, "shedding red particles." Theories concerning the identity of the object ranged from pieces of a U.S. satellite, to pieces of a burning aircraft engine, to a meteorite. Morrin observed the object coming from the east, and watched it fall into a field approximately one-fourth mile from the road.

According to the Calgary Herald, another object fell about 6 miles east of Majorville, 20 miles east of Milo and about 12 miles away from the spot where the first object came down. The object seen by Morrin was estimated to be about 2 feet in diameter, the other object, seen by Bertschy, was estimated (by Bertschy) as the "size of an airplane," with pieces falling off from it.

On the same evening, Calgary geologist Alan McGugan reported seeing a "bright green incandescent object with a distinctive tail," which flashed low over the horizon above Pigeon Mountain from north to south.

Ball Of Fire Near Holland

A huge ball of fire appearing to be about 15 miles off the Dutch Coast disappeared slowly in a northerly direction on Sunday night, 15 January 1961. The object was first seen by the Dutch coastal station Scheveningen at an elevation of 60 degrees about 15 miles away. As the object disappeared into the north, its brilliance decreased from bright red to dark red.

Bright Object Puzzles Texans

During the week of 10-16 January, residents of Corpus Christi, Texas, as well as Navy personnel were puzzled about the identity of a bright hovering light which, after a period of time, disappeared into the west at a high rate of speed. A Naval air station control spokesman said on the 16th that the Navy had received reports about an object in the sky for a week and was "still trying to identify it." W. J. Mobley, operator of the Tule Lake bridge said he saw the object twice and on both occasions it appeared to remain stationary for about an hour, then "suddenly moved rapidly due west."

Herman Gary viewed the light through binoculars, said it was somewhat irregular in shape, had a sunburst effect and what appeared to be rays of light flowing back from the direction it traveled. It seemed to be uniformly lighted across its entire surface, he said.

An Air Force radar tracking station at Rockport, north of Corpus Christi, reported no trace of the object on the radar screen. Terry Hartley, at the FAA control tower at Corpus Christi International Airport said the object appeared to be Venus, then went on to comment about the unusual brilliance of Venus at this time of the year.

What is most unusual about this sighting is the fact that the object was viewed nightly for a week and no one was able to identify it. Another point which piques the curiosity is why people suddenly "notice" Venus (if this object was Venus) when it had been present and very bright for weeks.

Odds And Ends

Lakeport, Calif., 16 February 1961. Robert Sneed, his wife and son Victor, who is a local photographer, watched an unidentified light about 20 degrees above the western horizon over Cow Mountain, for nearly half an hour. The time was 9 p.m. and the observers noted it went out at 9:25. Victor Sneed took pictures of object before it disappeared, but the press has had no further news on what the film disclosed. The elevation and azimuth indicates the object might have been the planet Venus.

Jefferson County, Indiana, near Clifty Falls, 14 January 1961. Machine tool company executive, living on property adjacent to military proving grounds, took dog out on porch, then spotted hovering UAO. Object observed through branches of bare tree, appeared about "size of kitchen stove," and glowing

white, with two exhausts. Object hovered about 45 minutes, observer watching constantly, then it "disappeared instantaneously." Observer considered possibility it might have been a military experiment, but could see no reason why an experiment would be carried out at night in pouring rain. Thanks to Dorothy Lefler for this one.

Binghamton, New York, 25 November 1960. Mrs. Marion T. Lee observed two brilliant balls in the north about 45 degrees above the horizon. They were intense white, one making a tight circle and the other moving slowly west and rising with wing-like device flapping, which could be detected easily in the bright sunshine. The wing-like appendages made shadows on the sphere. They appeared size of dime at arm's length and rose to a height where they became indistinguishable in the sky.

At 6:45 p. m. on 5 December 1960, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Bakken of Aitkin, Minnesota were traveling north from Minneapolis to their home in Aitkin. Mr. Bakken is school superintendent in Aitkin. They saw what first appeared to be a large hay stack on fire beyond the trees to the East. After they traveled for some time and were beyond the trees, they saw that the object was a spherical thing "halloween orange" in color, hovering in the sky close to the horizon. A bright light which looked like a searchlight projected upward from the object. Because they observed the object for a long period of time (about 20-25 minutes) and because it appeared so large, they believe the object was a long ways away, perhaps in Wisconsin, and very large. Credit: Mrs. Charles Brunes.

11 December 1960, Buenos Aires, Argentina. A strange white light and explosion during a storm was reported by several people in the country near Buenos Aires. They reported they saw a blinding light and then heard the explosion which shook houses over a two-mile area. A crater 13 feet wide was discovered later. No further details available.

Sunnyvale, Calif., 1 December 1960. During a storm in the Sunnyvale area, peculiar telephone and electric interferences were recorded. At the same time, a woman on Homestead Road reported seeing a 'big blue balloon with a cone in its tail, shooting stars' which sailed past her as she was driving her children to school.

Pendleton, Oregon, 8 January 1961. Bill Simmons heard a loud noise, "like a big tree falling," went outside and found a cake of ice measuring 13½

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Odds and Ends

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inches in diameter and 7 inches thick, imbedded in the mud. An airliner was flying over at the time, but a check with the airlines disclosed that craft had no icing. The noise was too loud for the ice to have been thrown from the street, and there was no ice on overhead wiring. Despite the loud noise, there was no large indentation in the ground where the ice struck, which seemed to indicate that the ice had not been dropped from a great height. The chunk of ice was intact.

Glenburn, Maine, 5 February 1961. A brilliant white light which lit up the sky followed by an audio phenomenon of great portions, occurred in this vicinity. All reports indicated that the strange incident took place at about 2:40 a. m. Some described the light as like an "arc welder's torch" or "blue-ish." Three to five seconds later witnesses heard a "long, drawn out roar, more like thunder than a jet plane." Observers said it was a heavy roar, momentarily fading, then returning as loud as at first. The direction of the light seemed to be toward Pushaw Lake, in the northeast.

Dec. 16, 1960, Cincinnati, Ohio. Member Dorothy Lefler reports seeing a huge ball of blue-white light in the eastern sky, traveling ENE about 8:50 p. m. Its apparent size was that of a lighted traffic light seen from half a block away. Its motion gave the impression of a softball being pitched—arcing slightly upward. Sighting lasted one or two seconds. It disappeared instantaneously—no sparks.

Dec. 16, 1960, Chattanooga, Tenn. A moonwatch team thought at first it was looking at Echo I but then they took another look. The object was too low and the direction wasn't quite right. A Fayetteville newspaper correspondent called it a ball of fire. A weather bureau man thought it was probably a weather balloon released at Nashville.

Perpignan, France, 26 Nov. 1961. A resident saw in the sky two cigar-shaped bright objects. These two objects were parallel to each other and perpendicular (to the ground, presumably); they remained motionless for a few seconds and then disappeared.

Messina, Italy, 17 Nov. 1960. An unidentified object plunged into the sea off the "tip" of Italy. Ships and planes in the area where the object came down reported no wreckage in sight. Authorities thought it might have been a meteorite.

Red Bluff, Calif. 21 Nov. A sonic boom occurred which was loud enough

to break windows and set off burglar alarms.

Des Moines, Iowa, 6 Jan. 1961. Scores of observers reported a bright green light which streaked across the southern sky. Prof. Philip Riggs, astronomer at Drake university, said it was probably caused by a meteor burning itself out in the atmosphere. FAA personnel at the Des Moines airport reported that the object was in view about one minute.

Langley Field, Va. 24 Oct. 1960. Major Ace Evers of Kingman, Ariz. encountered an object described only as a "startling blue and white light." It came right for his plane but turned abruptly.

Rocket-Shaped UAO Over Idaho

An object described by many witnesses as rocket-shaped flashed across the skies in southeastern Idaho at 12:30 p. m. on 4 March 1961. Some witnesses said it appeared to explode high in the sky leaving a trail of blue smoke. Several minutes after its passing, observers said they heard loud rumbling noises which shook houses and rattled windows in the area.

At Hill Air Force Base near Ogden, Utah, a helicopter was dispatched to investigate, apparently finding nothing. Officials at Hill said all of their aircraft were accounted for and they had no reports of transient craft in trouble.

Correction

On page 5, Column 1, of the September 1960 APRO Bulletin, a typographical error made Pedro dos Santos' donkeys the fastest donkey herd in existence. It should read 1.8 kilometers, NOT 18 kilometers. When members detect such errors overlooked by the proofreader, we would appreciate hearing of them. Our thanks this time goes to Mr. Daniel du Pont.

The following was submitted by a member who felt it was "food for thought": An RCA employee, presently engaged in checking the Dew Line Equipment (distant early warning radar), relayed the information that a "flight" of "unknowns" coming in over the Pole very nearly precipitated a "button pushing" which would have set off our retaliatory missiles and thus plunged the world into an unprovoked war. This is not the first information we have had on a "near war" possibly due to the flight of UAOs. Until we can convince SOMEONE in high position of the existence of these alien machines, the possibility of such a tragedy is a real one.

Fireball Over Colorado And Kansas

A fireball believed to be a meteor was seen by many residents of Colorado Springs on the evening of 29 January 1961. Because of the widespread area in which these fiery objects have been seen, one is tempted to accept the meteor theory. However, descriptions generally indicate that the objects were low and very large in size. The object seen in Colorado and Kansas was so spectacular that law enforcement officers at Kansas City, Kansas were preparing a full report for Air Force authorities dealing with objects seen in that general area on Wednesday, the 25th, Saturday the 28th and again on Sunday.

"Flaming, Blinking Lights" At Bedford, Mass.

Residents in Bedford, Massachusetts, as well as Boston and one area in West Virginia, reported to officials that they had observed unexplainable "flaming," "blinking" lights on the evening of 5 February. One woman said she saw a blinking white light traveling up and down. The Flint Michigan Journal said "other descriptions varied," but did not elucidate. NORAD spokesman at L. G. Hanscom Field said radar had recorded nothing unusual. No formal Moonwatch reports had come into the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, either. Both agencies said they had received inquiries from a number of observers.

The Catholic magazine "America," recently carried an article by an associate editor, the Rev. L. C. McHugh expressing the view that "intelligent life is quite a 'common' phenomena in the vast reaches of space."

Said the Jesuit Scholar, "organic life on earth evolved toward a specialized form that in God's design was apt material for the infusion of a spiritual soul, while at the same time, the lower forms were ordained to serve as a substratum for rational existence and its needs. Why should these things not be generally true in a physical universe characterized by uniformity of law and process."

Note Of Explanation

You will note that your March Bulletin which you will receive with this one or soon after, consists of a few current sightings and a briefing. It was the feeling of the staff that most members would want to see the full text of this brief.